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PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

CALIFORNIA.

The following reports of plague-prevention work in California were received from Senior Surg. Pierce, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 2, 1915.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.		OPERATIONS ON THE WATER FRONT.	
RAT PROOFING.			
New buildings:		Number of vessels inspected for rat guards.	25
Inspections of work under construction.	126	Number of reinspections made on vessels.	30
Basements concreted (71,427 square feet).....	111	Number of new rat guards procured.....	20
Floors concreted (14,020 square feet)....	36	Number of defective rat guards repaired...	8
Yards, passageways, etc. (95,470 square feet).....	150	Rats trapped on wharves and water front..	37
Total area of concrete laid, square feet.	180,917	Rats trapped on vessels.....	21
Class A, B, and C fire-proof buildings:		Number of traps set on wharves and water front.....	175
Inspections made.....	174	Number of traps set on vessels.....	54
Roof and basement ventilators, etc., screened.....	4,715	Number of vessels trapped on.....	12
Wire screening used (square feet).....	23,440	Poisons placed on water front (pieces).....	3,600
Openings around pipes, etc., closed with cement.....	2,920	Poisons placed within Panama-Pacific International Exposition grounds (pieces)...	7,200
Sidewalk lens lights replaced.....	1,000	Bait used on water front and vessels, bacon (pounds).....	6
Old buildings:		Amount of bread used in poisoning water front (loaves).....	12
Inspections made.....	435	Number of pounds of poison used on water front.....	6
Wooden floors removed.....	27		
Yards and passageways, planking removed.....	16		
Cubic feet new foundation walls installed.....	4,945		
Concrete floors installed (47,330 square feet).....	49		
Basements concreted (30,330 square feet).....	38		
Yards and passageways, etc., concreted (14,410 square feet).....	69		
Total area concrete laid (square feet)...	92,070		
Floors rat proofed with wire cloth (19,159 square feet).....	7		
Buildings razed.....	10		
New garbage cans stamped approved.....	409		
Nuisances abated.....	315		

RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE.

Collected.....	333
Examined.....	240
Found infected.....	None.

RATS IDENTIFIED.

Mus norvegicus.....	153
Mus alexandrinus.....	49
Mus musculus.....	62
Mus rattus.....	69

SQUIRRELS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE.

Counties.	Shot.	Examined.	Found infected.
Contra Costa.....	141	141	1
Monterey.....	63	63	
San Benito.....	89	89	
Total.....	293	293	1

RANCHES INSPECTED AND HUNTED OVER.

Contra Costa County.....	20
Monterey County.....	8
San Benito County.....	10
Total.....	38

PLAGUE-INFECTED SQUIRREL.

Contra Costa County.—Shot September 16, 1915.—W. Noakes ranch, 6½ miles southwest of Antioch, 1 squirrel.

WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 9, 1915.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.		OPERATIONS ON THE WATER FRONT.	
RAT PROOFING.			
New buildings:		Vessels inspected for rat guards.....	21
Inspections of work under construction.	235	Reinspections made on vessels.....	27
Basements concreted (96,763 square feet).....	123	New rat guards procured.....	16
Floors concreted (23,020 square feet)...	18	Defective rat guards repaired.....	16
Yards, passageways, etc. (44,986 square feet).....	287	Rats trapped on wharves and water front..	44
Total area of concrete laid, 164,769 square feet.		Rats trapped on vessels.....	19
Class A, B, and C (fireproof) buildings:		Traps set on wharves and water front.....	165
Inspections made.....	165	Traps set on vessels.....	68
Roof and basement ventilators, etc., screened.....	4,252	Vessels trapped on.....	14
Wire screening used, 20,874 square feet.		Poisons placed on water front (pieces).....	3,600
Openings around pipes, etc., closed with cement.....	3,520	Poisons placed within Panama-Pacific International Exposition grounds.....	7,200
Sidewalk lens lights replaced.....	2,000	Bait used on water front and vessels, bacon (pounds).....	6
Old buildings:		Amount of bread used in poisoning water front (loaves).....	12
Inspections made.....	353	Pounds of poison used on water front.....	6
Wooden floors removed.....	20	RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE.	
Yards and passageways, planking removed.....	7	Collected.....	389
Cubic feet new foundation walls installed.....	8,317	Examined.....	290
Concrete floors installed (29,153 square feet).....	49	Found infected.....	None.
Basements concreted (23,488 square feet).....	34	RATS IDENTIFIED.	
Yards and passageways, etc., concreted (29,424 square feet).....	143	Mus norvegicus.....	191
Total area concrete laid, 82,065 square feet.		Mus musculus.....	66
Floors rat proofed with wire cloth (14,145 square feet).....	13	Mus alexandrinus.....	64
Buildings razed.....	10	Mus rattus.....	68
New garbage cans stamped approved.....	869	SQUIRRELS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE.	
Nuisances abated.....	358	Contra Costa County.....	154
		Found infected.....	None.
		RANCHES INSPECTED AND HUNTED OVER.	
		Contra Costa County.....	23

Record of plague infection.

Places in California.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case of squirrel plague.	Total number rodents found infected since May, 1907.
Cities:				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908	Oct. 23, 1908	(¹)	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Aug. 9, 1911	Dec. 1, 1908	(¹)	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 28, 1907	(¹)	(¹)	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908	(¹)	Aug. 21, 1908	1 squirrel.
Counties:				
Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley).	Sept. 24, 1909	Oct. 17, 1909 ²	July 12, 1915	287 squirrels, 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	July 13, 1915	(¹)	Sept. 16, 1915	1,594 squirrels.
Fresno.....	(¹)	(¹)	Oct. 27, 1911	1 squirrel.
Merced.....	(¹)	(¹)	July 12, 1911	5 squirrels.
Monterey.....	(¹)	(¹)	Apr. 10, 1914	6 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 4, 1913	(¹)	Aug. 14, 1915	50 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	Sept. 18, 1911	(¹)	Aug. 26, 1911	18 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	(¹)	(¹)	Jan. 29, 1910	1 squirrel.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 31, 1910	(¹)	July 23, 1913	25 squirrels.
Santa Cruz.....	(¹)	(¹)	May 17, 1910	3 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	(¹)	(¹)	June 2, 1911	13 squirrels.

¹ None.² Wood rat.

The work is being carried on in the following-named counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, Stanislaus, and San Benito.

LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following report of plague-eradication work at New Orleans for the week ended October 16, 1915, was received from Surg. Creel, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

OUTGOING QUARANTINE.		BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED—continued.	
Vessels fumigated with sulphur.....	5	By concrete floor and wall.....	38
Vessels fumigated with carbon monoxide..	14	By minor repairs.....	48
Vessels fumigated with hydrocyanic gas...	2	Total buildings rat proofed.....	263
Sulphur used..... pounds..	700	Square yards of concrete laid.....	13,362
Coke consumed in carbon monoxide fumigation..... pounds..	19,300	Number of lots and sheds, planking removed.....	29
Cyanide used in cyanide gas fumigation, pounds.....	84½	Number of buildings demolished.....	21
Sulphuric acid used in cyanide gas fumigation..... pints..	84½	Total buildings rat proofed to date (abated)	93,327
Clean bills of health issued.....	26	LABORATORY OPERATIONS.	
Foul bills of health issued.....	5	Rodents received by species:	
FIELD OPERATIONS.		Mus rattus.....	213
Number of rats trapped.....	6,977	Mus norvegicus.....	1,320
Number of premises inspected.....	5,479	Mus alexandrinus.....	176
Notices served.....	2,301	Mus musculus.....	5,304
Poisons placed.....	50	Wood rats.....	21
Number of garbage cans installed.....	90	Musk rats.....	10
BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED.		Putrid (included in enumeration of species).....	48
By elevation.....	48	Total rodents received at laboratory.....	7,044
By marginal concrete wall.....	69	Rodents examined.....	2,030
		Number of suspicious rats.....	7
		Plague rats confirmed.....	2

PLAGUE RATS.

Case No.	Address.	Captured.	Diagnosis confirmed.	Treatment of premises.
258	Hyams coal yard (foot of Girod St.).	Oct. 7, 1915	Oct. 11, 1915	Rat proofing initiated; intensive trapping.
259	2415 Felicity Street.....	Oct. 6, 1915	Oct. 13, 1915	Immediate removal of rodent harborage; intensive trapping.

Number of human plague cases.....	None.	Total cases of rodent plague to Oct. 16, by species:	
Last case of human plague, Sept. 8, 1915.		Mus musculus.....	5
Last case of rodent plague, Oct. 13, 1915.		Mus rattus.....	18
Total number of rodents captured to Oct. 16.....	467,305	Mus alexandrinus.....	8
Total number of rodents examined to Oct. 16.....	293,625	Mus norvegicus.....	228
		Total rodent cases to Oct. 16, 1915. . .	259

WASHINGTON—SEATTLE—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following report of plague-eradication work at Seattle for the week ended October 9, 1915, was received from Surg. Lloyd, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

RAT PROOFING.		RAT PROOFING—continued.	
New buildings inspected.....	34	Total concrete laid, new structures (square feet).....	199,780
New buildings reinspected.....	36	New buildings elevated.....	5
Basements concreted, new buildings (10,750 square feet).....	9	New premises rat proofed, concrete.....	25
Floors concreted, new buildings (178,240 square feet).....	16	Old buildings inspected.....	3
Yards, etc., concreted, new structures (4,250 square feet).....	6	Premises rat proofed, concrete, old buildings	2
Sidewalks concreted (square feet).....	6,540	Floors concreted, old buildings (3,775 square feet).....	2
		Wooden floors removed, old buildings.....	2
		Buildings razed.....	4

LABORATORY AND RODENT OPERATIONS.

Dead rodents received.....	23
Rodents trapped and killed.....	316
Rodents recovered after fumigation.....	36
Total.....	375
Rodents examined for plague infection.....	226
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.
Poison distributed, pounds.....	13
Bodies examined for plague infection.....	2
Bodies found plague infected.....	None.

CLASSIFICATION OF RODENTS.

Mus rattus.....	15
Mus alexandrinus.....	65
Mus norvegicus.....	137
Mus musculus.....	82
Unclassified.....	36

WATER FRONT.

Vessels inspected and histories recorded ...	15
Vessels fumigated.....	1
Sulphur used, pounds.....	2,000
New rat guards installed.....	12
Defective rat guards repaired.....	17
Fumigation certificates issued.....	1
Port sanitary statements issued.....	44

The usual day and night patrol was maintained to enforce rat guarding and fending.

MISCELLANEOUS WORK.

Rat proofing notices sent to contractors, new buildings.....	20
Letters sent in re rat complaints.....	7

RODENTS EXAMINED IN EVERETT.

Mus norvegicus trapped.....	49
Mus norvegicus found dead.....	1
Mus musculus trapped.....	2
Total.....	52
Rodents examined for plague infection.....	46
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.

RAT PROOFING OPERATIONS IN EVERETT.

New buildings inspected.....	7
New buildings, concrete foundations.....	4
New buildings elevated 18 inches.....	3
New buildings, basements concreted (912 square feet).....	1
New buildings, floors concreted (576 square feet).....	1
New buildings, yards concreted (160 square feet).....	1
Total concrete laid, new buildings (square feet).....	1,648
Old buildings, plank yards removed, concreted (square feet).....	750
Old buildings, yards concreted (square feet).....	295
Total concrete laid, old buildings (square feet).....	1,045

PORTO RICO—PLAGUE PREVENTION.

The following table shows the number of rats and mice examined in Porto Rico for plague infection during the two weeks ended October 8, 1915. No plague infection was found.

Place.	Rats.	Mice.
San Juan.....	148	39
Puerta de Tierra.....	99	17
Santurce.....	120	8
Total.....	367	64